

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

22 May 1985

Fritz Ermarth
NIO/USSR
National Intelligence Council
HQ 7E47

Dear Fritz:

I would like to invite you to participate in a conference dealing with "Balkans Regional Questions" which will be held at CIA Headquarters on June 11 to 13. We will begin the conference with a reception and dinner at 6:30pm on Tuesday 11 June, also at CIA Headquarters. Our speaker at the dinner will be Ambassador Robert Barry, who will discuss "The Strategic Importance of the Balkans for the United States." This informal occasion should give all participants the opportunity to get to know one other, and we hope you will be able to join us at this opening session even if your schedule does not permit you to attend the rest of the conference.

As indicated on the attached agenda, nine outside experts on the region will present brief remarks, followed by a panel discussion, and questions from the audience. The purpose of the conference is to elicit the views of these specialists on Balkan affairs at a time when the area is once more the scene of ferment, and the potential challenges to US interests may be increasing. The entire conference will be conducted at the confidential level.

I would appreciate your letting know as soon as possible, but no later than June 7, whether you will be able to attend.

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Sincerely,


George Kolt
NIO/EUROPE